

Message Text

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47

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00

OMB-01 /094 W

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P 221725Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY PANAMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5529

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE PRIORITY

PAN CANAL PRIORITY

USSOUTHCOM PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L PANAMA 6483

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, EINV, EEWT, PN

SUBJECT: RUSSIANS ARE COMING TO PANAMA

REF: PANAMA 6429

1. ON OCCASION AMBASSADOR'S MONTHLY MEETING WITH AMERICAN
BUSINESSMEN OCTOBER 21, CHASE MANHATTAN REP REEVES REPORTED
FOLLOWING TO ECON/COM COUNSELOR:

2. ALTHOUGH MOSCOW-NORODMY BANK CHAIRMAN SCHEVCHENKO "NORMALLY
CLOSE-MOUTHED", HE (REEVES) GOT DISTINCT IMPRESSION SHEVCHENKO
FAVORABLY CONSIDERING ESTABLISHMENT BRANCH IN PANAMA. THIS
MAY TAKE SEVERAL MONTHS BECAUSE OF TIME-CONSUMING GOP BANKING
COMMISSION FORMALITIES.

3. SHEVCHENKO AND HIS ASSOCIATE SMITH DEPARTING FOR HAVANA
VIA CUBANA AIRLINES OCTOBER 23.

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COMMENT: PRESUMABLY THE RUSSIANS ARE PRIMARILY INTERESTED IN OFFSHORE OPERATIONS TO DEVELOP MARKETS FOR RUSSIAN PRODUCTS AND SERVICES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN THRU THE COLON FREE TRADE ZONE. THE RUSSIAN MOVE MAY EVENTUALLY LEAD TO ESTABLISHMENT OF SOVIET DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN PANAMA. IT IS GOP'S POLICY TO OPEN ITS DOORS TO EVERYONE THUS DEMONSTRATING ITS INDEPENDENCE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN INVESTMENT, BANKS, EMBASSY MEETINGS FOR BUSINESSMEN
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 OCT 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975PANAMA06483
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750367-0060
From: PANAMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751029/aaaaazhe.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 PANAMA 6429
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <30 OCT 2003 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RUSSIANS ARE COMING TO PANAMA
TAGS: EFIN, EINV, EEWT, PN, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006